

KIDDERMINSTER
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND

Sanitary Inspector

FOR

1947



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KIDDERMINSTER
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR

1947

Kidderminster Rural District Council.

Chairman:

COUNCILLOR A. E. HALFORD, J.P., C.C.

Vice-Chairman:

COUNCILLOR A. PARDOE

COUNCILLOR M. DAVIS

„ J. DICKINSON
 „ H. DOOLITTLE
 „ H. HINGLEY, J.P.
 „ A. E. HOBSON
 „ G. N. PERCIVAL-HUMPHRIES, J.P., C.C.
 „ G. LEE
 „ W. H. KIMBERLEE
 „ G. F. PRATT
 „ E. SMITH
 „ R. P. WILLIAMS
 „ J. C. WILSON
 „ T. O. WILSON

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE COUNCIL

Medical Officer of Health: G. J. EADY, L.M.S.S.A.(Lond.),
 to 31st March, 1947.

R. W. MARKHAM, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.,
 from 1st April, 1947.

Sanitary Inspector: R. S. PORTER, Cert.S.I.J.B., C.R.San.I.
 (Cert. Meat & Foods Inspector)

Assistant: C. G. KNOTT, from 1st April, 1947.

Public Health Clerk: MISS J. E. MANTLE.

Rats & Mice Destruction Officer: J. BUNN.

Inspector under Rural Housing Survey: C. G. KNOTT,
 to 31st March, 1947.

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

To the Chairman and Members of the
Kidderminster Rural District Council.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my Report for the year 1947.

SECTION A.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area

Area in Acres	...	...	...	...	...	...	36,790
Registrar-General's estimate of the resident population, mid 1947	...	...	...	...	...	...	9,980
Number of inhabited houses at the end of 1947	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,940
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	...	£60,024
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	£239/15/8

Social Conditions

In the main the inhabitants of the District are engaged in agricultural and kindred work, though a certain proportion are employed in industry in Kidderminster, and a number of males are employed at an Iron Works in the District.

Vital Statistics

Births

			Males	Females	1947 Total	1946 Total
(a)	Live Births: Legitimate	...	93	84	177	150
	Illegitimate	...	3	3	6	13
	Birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated population	... ..	...	...	18.3	16.8
	Birth rate for England and Wales	...	...	...	20.5	19.63
			Males	Females		
(b)	Still Births: Legitimate	...	1	1	2	4
	Illegitimate	...	0	0	0	1
	Rate per 1,000 total (live & still births) births	... ..	...	...	18.5	17.2

Deaths

			Males	Females		
(a)	No. registered for District	...	75	66	141	91
	Crude death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	... ..	...	...	14.1	9.37
	Death rate for England and Wales	...	...	...	12.0	11.5
(b)	Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	...	...	24	13
	Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	0	0
	Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	...	1	0
	Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	...	...	0	0
(c)	Maternal Mortality—Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	...	0	0
	Other Puerperal causes	...	...	...	0	0
(d)	Infant Mortality. Under 1 year of age	...	...	...	10	3
	Death rate of Infants under 1 year of age:—					
	All Infants per 1,000 live births	... ..	...	...	54.6	18.4
	Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	... ..	...	...	56.5	20.0
	Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	... ..	...	...	Nil	Nil
	Infant Mortality Rate for England and Wales per 1,000 live births	... ..	...	...	41	43

Causes of Death

					1947		1946	
					M	F	M	F
Typhoid Fever, etc.	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Measles	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	1	—	—	—
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Influenza	...	...	...	...	1	1	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Respiratory Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	1	—	—	1
Other Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	2	1	1	1
Syphilis	...	...	...	...	—	—	1	—
Cancer	...	...	...	...	11	13	7	6
Diabetes	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	1
Cerebral Haemorrhage, etc.	...	...	...	...	8	9	7	1
Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	19	21	13	14
Other Circulatory Diseases	...	...	...	...	2	1	1	2
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	5	3	1	2
Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	...	1	2	2	2
Other Respiratory Diseases	...	...	...	...	3	—	1	2
Peptic Ulcer	...	...	...	...	2	1	1	—
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Appendicitis	...	...	...	...	1	—	1	—
Other Digestive Diseases	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	—
Acute and Chronic Nephritis	...	...	...	...	3	1	3	1
Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Other Puerperal Causes	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	1
Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, Malformations, etc.	...	...	...	...	3	4	1	—
Suicide	...	...	...	...	1	—	2	—
Road Traffic Accidents	...	...	...	...	1	—	—	—
Other Violence	...	...	...	...	1	2	3	1
All Other Causes	...	...	...	...	8	6	3	7
Causes ill-defined or unknown	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Special Causes:—								
Smallpox	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Polioencephalitis	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
					75	66	49	42

SECTION B.

General Provision of Health Services in the Area.

Staff.

I have the assistance and co-operation of the Sanitary Inspector, Mr. R. S. Porter, who holds the Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute as Inspector of Meat and other Foods, and of Miss J. E. Mantle as Public Health Clerk.

Laboratory Facilities.

The Worcestershire County Council Laboratories are available for the examination of clinical material, water, milk and foodstuffs, and the work is carried out by the County Analyst.

Ambulance Facilities.

For Infectious Diseases an ambulance is provided by the North Worcestershire Joint Isolation Hospital Committee. The ambulance is stationed at the Hospital and is available at all hours.

For other cases an Ambulance Service is provided by the Kidderminster Corporation.

Nursing in the Home.

There are three District Nurses in the Area, who also practise as Midwives and act as Health Visitors. In addition two other District Nurses deal with portions of the Area.

The work of these District Nurses has been very well carried out, often under extremely difficult conditions.

Infant Welfare Centres.

There are three Voluntary Infant Welfare Centres in the Area, one at Far Forest, one at Cookley and one at Wolverley. There are also Infant Welfare Centres at Hagley and Wribbenhall, which many children from this Area attend. In addition, a small voluntary clinic is held by Dr. L. Bold in Chaddesley Corbett and has proved to be of considerable value to the residents of the Area.

Hospitals.

The Kidderminster and District General Hospital is available for all residents in our Area.

For Infectious Diseases the North Worcestershire Joint Isolation Hospital at Hayley Green is available.

Tuberculosis.

This work is undertaken by the Worcestershire County Council, who arrange sanatorium treatment as far as present limitations permit. A tuberculosis dispensary is held every Thursday at 2 p.m. at the Kidderminster General Hospital, when Dr. R. Cronin attends.

Venereal Disease.

The County Council arrange for treatment and follow-up of these cases at the Kidderminster General Hospital.

SECTION C.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

Water.

The Council own approximately sixty miles of water pipes, and the water in the Rural District is supplied by:—

- (1) The Council's Borehole at Cookley.
- (2) The City of Birmingham Elan Aqueduct.
- (3) The Stourbridge Water Board.

The supply is satisfactory both in regard to quality and quantity.

Number of Houses Supplied from Public Mains.

Parish	No. of houses supplied from stand taps	No. of houses supplied direct from mains
Wolverley	213	657
Upper Arley	19	70
Ribbesford	—	6
Churchill and Blakedown..	5	279
Rock	38	300
Broom	—	40
Stone	—	60
Rushock	—	—
Kidderminster Foreign ..	207	50
Chaddesley Corbett ..	17	300
Total	499	1762

The above figures are approximate. Included in the 499 houses supplied from stand taps are several areas of bungalow development and a "squatters" camp.

At regular intervals throughout the year the Sanitary Inspector submitted samples of water from the three main sources, for chemical and bacteriological examination by the County Analyst. All the samples were satisfactory.

Report of the County Analyst.

Upon a sample of Borehole water contained in a W. Qt. Bottle. Marked Council's Borehole, Cookley. Received from Mr. R. S. Porter, Sanitary Inspector, Land Oak House, Kidderminster, on the 17th March, 1947.

I hereby certify that I have examined the above sample chemically and bacteriologically with the following results:—

Physical Characters. Clear.

Odour None.

Deposit None. pH 7.4

Chemical Examination (Results expressed in parts per 100,000)

Solids in Suspension (dried at 100°C)	...	...	...	None
Solids in Solution (dried at 100°C)	...	...	...	29
„ „ „ After Ignition	...	...	...	23
Chlorides calculated as Common Salt	...	...	...	3.7
Hardness Permanent)	...	...	...	11
„ Temporary) Blacher	...	...	...	8
„ Total )	...	...	...	19
Free and Saline Ammonia	...	...	...	0.002
Albuminoid Ammonia	...	...	...	0.002
Nitric Nitrogen (Nitrates)	...	...	...	0.4
Nitrous Nitrogen (Nitrites)	...	...	...	None
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 27°C	...	...	...	None
Toxic Metals	...	...	...	None detected
Free Chlorine on receipt	...	...	...	0.002

Note.—To convert the above parts per 100,000 to grains per gallon, multiply by 0.7.

Bacteriological Examination.

Number of Colonies developing upon Agar

(a) In two days at 37°C 2 per one m.l.

(b) In three days at 22° C 10 „ „ „

Coli-Aerogenes (Presumptive Coli) count ... Nil „ 100 „

Opinion:—The sample is fit for drinking.

(Signed) M. M. LOVE,

County Analyst.

27th March, 1947.

Report of County Analyst.

Upon a sample of Elan Valley Supply Water contained in a W. Qt. bottle. Marked Rock House, Habberley Valley. Received from Mr. R. S. Porter, Sanitary Inspector, Land Oak House, Kidderminster, on 8th October, 1947.

I hereby certify that I have examined the above sample chemically and bacteriologically with the following results:—

Physical Characters.	Clear.	
Odour	None.	
Deposit	Very slight.	pH 9.7.

Chemical Examination (Results expressed in parts per 100,000).

Solids in Suspension (dried at 100°C)	...	...	Slight trace
Solids in Solution (dried at 100°C)	...	...	7
„ „ „ After ignition	...	...	4
Chlorides calculated as Common Salt	...	...	1.4
Hardness Permanent	...	...	2
„ Temporary	...	...	3
„ Total	...	...	5
Free and Saline Ammonia	...	...	0.001
Albuminoid Ammonia	...	...	0.005
Nitric Nitrogen (Nitrates)	...	...	None
Nitrous Nitrogen (Nitrites)	...	...	None
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 27°C	...	...	0.16
Toxic Metals	...	...	None detected

Note.—To convert the above parts per 100,000 to grains per gallon multiply by 0.7.

Bacteriological Examination.

Number of Colonies developing upon Agar

(a) In two days at 37°C ... Nil per one m.l.

(b) In three days at 22°C ... 20 „ „ „

Coli-Aerogenes (Presumptive Coli) count ... Nil „ 100 „

Opinion:—The sample is fit for drinking.

(Signed) M. M. LOVE,

County Analyst.

22nd October, 1947.

Report of the County Analyst.

Upon a sample of Town Water contained in a W. Qt. bottle. Marked 1, Council Houses, Blakedown (Stourbridge Water Board). Received from Mr. R. S. Porter, Sanitary Inspector, Land Oak House, Kidderminster, on 4th November, 1947.

I hereby certify that I have examined the above sample chemically and bacteriologically with the following results:—

Physical Characters. Clear.

Odour None.

Deposit None. pH 7.4.

Chemical Examination (Results expressed in parts per 100,000).

Solids in Suspension (dried at 100°C) ... None

Solids in Solution (dried at 100°C) ... 48

„ „ „ After ignition ... 42

Chlorides calculated as Common Salt ... 7.6

Hardness Permanent ... 12

„ Temporary ... 16

„ Total ... 28

Free and Saline Ammonia ... 0.0008

Albuminoid Ammonia ... 0.0008

Nitric Nitrogen (Nitrates) ... 1.2

Nitrous Nitrogen (Nitrites) ... None

Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 27°C ... 0.013

Toxic Metals ... None detected

Free Chlorine on receipt ... 0.002

Note.—To convert the above parts per 100,000 to grains per gallon multiply by 0.7.

Bacteriological Examination.

Number of Colonies developing upon Agar

(a) In two days at 37°C	...	...	...	3 per one m.l.
(b) In three days at 22°C	...	...	10	„ „ „
Coli-Aerogenes (Presumptive Coli) count	...	Nil	„	100 „

Opinion:—The sample is fit for drinking.

(Signed) M. M. LOVE,

County Analyst.

11th November, 1947.

Drainage and Sewerage.

The conditions described in our report for 1946 remain unchanged, as none of the proposed sewerage schemes have yet been sanctioned. These conditions are such as to cause anxiety at all times, and especially should any infection of the enteric type be introduced into the village communities concerned.

In spite of all the present difficulties, it is hoped that no effort will be spared to bring about an early improvement in the sanitary conditions of the areas concerned.

Rivers and Streams.

The conditions referred to above have led to the pollution of rivers and streams by effluents of all types, and this has now become a serious matter. The only satisfactory remedy is the provision of adequate sewers and disposal works covering each area.

Public Cleansing.

See Sanitary Inspector's Report.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

See Sanitary Inspector's Report.

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

See Sanitary Inspector's Report.

Schools.

The general condition of the school buildings is reasonably satisfactory. The majority of the schools are connected with the Council's water supply, but the sanitary arrangements are much below standard, and little effective improvement can be made until proper sewers are available in the villages concerned.

There were no school closures during the year.

HOUSING**A.—STATISTICS****1.—Inspection of dwelling houses during the year:—**

(1) (a)	Total number of dwellings inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts, including Rural Housing Survey)	1102
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	1137
(2) (a)	Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidation Regulations, 1925	676
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	692
(3)	Number of dwelling houses found not to be in all respects fit for human habitation	411

2.—Remedy of Defects during the year without the Service of Formal Notices:—

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	142
--	-----

3.—Action under Statutory Powers during the year: —**A.—Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.**

(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	Nil
(2)	Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of Formal Notices:—	
(a)	By Owners	Nil
(b)	By Local Authority in default of Owners ...	Nil

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	2
(2)	Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of Formal Notices:—	
(a)	By Owners	2
(b)	By Local Authority in default of Owners ...	Nil

C.—Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.

- | | | |
|---|--------|---|
| (1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made | ... .. | 1 |
| (2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders | ... .. | 1 |

D.—Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.

- | | | |
|---|-----|-----|
| (1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made | ... | Nil |
| (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been made fit | ... | Nil |

4.—Housing Act, 1936. Part IV.—Overcrowding.

There is a very considerable degree of overcrowding in the Area, which, although not defined as overcrowding under the ridiculously low standard laid down in the Housing Act, 1936, is nevertheless causing a great deal of real hardship.

It is felt that many, if not the majority, of the present ills of the Community can be traced to the existing housing difficulties. The Council has done everything possible under the present restrictions to alleviate these difficulties. This is shown by their excellent record in the erection of new council houses. In spite of their efforts, there are still over 500 applications for council houses, which is 1 in 20 of the resident population of the District.

SECTION E.

Inspection and Supervision of Food

- (a) Milk Supply.
- (b) Meat and Other Foods.

The Sanitary Inspector's Report deals with these matters.

The Food and Drugs Acts are administered by the County Council.

SECTION F.

Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious and Other Diseases. Poliomyelitis.

During the country-wide epidemic of the late summer and autumn, we were fortunate in having only four cases in the District. Only one of these has any serious disability. No point of contact could be established between these cases and others occurring in the neighbourhood.

Immunisation against Diphtheria.

The importance of early immunisation of infants against diphtheria, and the necessity for a reinforcing dose on entering school has been brought to the notice of all parents. On the whole the response has been satisfactory, but there is still room for improvement.

A further 113 children were given primary courses of treatment during the year.

Notifications.

The notifiable infectious diseases (other than Tuberculosis) which occurred during the year 1947, are set out in the following table.

AGE IN YEARS																
Disease	under 1	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	over 65	Total No. of cases	No. of cases admitted to hosp'l	No. of deaths	
Measles	5	8	6	15	14	85	20	2	3	2	—	—	160	1	—	
Whooping Cough ..	3	2	7	7	2	10	2	—	—	—	—	—	33	1	1	
Scarlet Fever ..	—	—	—	5	1	10	8	—	1	1	—	—	26	25	—	
Puerperal Pyrexia ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2	1	—	
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	3	1	6	—	—	
Pneumonia	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	3	—	3	7	15	—	3	
Poliomyelitis ..	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	4	2	—	
Total	8	11	13	28	18	105	30	3	13	3	6	8	246	30	4	

Tuberculosis.

Eleven cases were notified during the year as against ten in 1946.

Age Periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Non- Respiratory		Respiratory		Non- Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
1—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
5—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
25—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
45—	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
55—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and upwards	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ..	6	2	2	1	2	—	2	—

It was not necessary to take any action under the Public Health Act (Prevention of Tuberculosis Regulations) 1925, or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

Conclusion.

I should like to thank the Chairman of the Council, the Chairmen of Committees and Members, for their kindness to me following my appointment this year. I have always been sure of help and co-operation in every aspect of my work.

Finally, I should like to express my thanks to the members of the Public Health Department and the other members of the Council's staff for the ready assistance I have had during my first year as Medical Officer.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

R. W. MARKHAM

Medical Officer of Health.

KIDDERMINSTER
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Sanitary Inspector

FOR

1947

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

SANITARY INSPECTOR.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Kidderminster Rural District Council.

Gentlemen,

I have much pleasure in submitting my Annual Report on the Sanitary Administration within the Rural District for the year ended 31st December, 1947.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE AND DISINFECTION

Number of visits made to premises re cases of infectious disease and disinfection	...	...	...	...	...	41
Number of rooms disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	30
Number of library and other books disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	16
Number of books destroyed	...	...	...	...	...	Nil

Disinfection of premises and articles which have been exposed to infection is carried out by means of disinfectant and formaldehyde lamps.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS

During all inspections of houses in the Rural District a very careful watch is kept for bug infestations. During 1947 not a single case has been found, which speaks very highly for the general standard of cleanliness in the Area.

The vogue of the old straw mattress, which has held sway for so long, appears to be passing, and the stripping down of beds has now become a habit.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS

Regular inspections of all food premises have been made and particular attention has been paid to the manner in which food is handled. Traders have been advised of the danger of infection from dirty hands.

With two exceptions only, the tradesmen have given no cause for complaint, in fact they are to be congratulated on the high standard of cleanliness which they set.

MEAT AND FOODS INSPECTION

Having regard to the difficult situation which confronts the country at the present time with regard to the supply of meat, inspections made of meat delivered into the Area from the Central Slaughter House in Kidderminster have revealed no serious trouble.

The only cause for complaint has been the unsatisfactory handling of meat during transit, and on complaints being made steps were taken to remedy the fault.

Naturally the quality of meat as compared with pre-war has deteriorated and has brought many complaints from purchasers, but this is a national matter, outside the control of Local Authorities.

The following articles of food were condemned as unfit for human consumption during the year:—

Tinned Milk	...	...	...	...	...	6 tins
Cheese	...	...	...	...	...	8 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs.
Assorted tinned foods	...	...	...	...	...	3 tins

COWSHEDS AND DAIRIES

I have found that my work in this important Public Health Service has been made increasingly difficult owing to the fact that so many different Authorities are now interested in milk production. The patience of the milk producer has been sorely tried by the increasing number of inspections made by various officials, and a feeling of frustration is fast becoming apparent.

During the lean years in agriculture the Local Authorities struggled to improve the conditions under which milk was produced and the producers co-operated as far as their limited financial means would allow. Now that agriculture is in a more flourishing condition and facilities are available for carrying out considerable improvements, Local Authorities find themselves in the most unsatisfactory position of being " caretakers " pending the taking over of all powers with regard to milk production by another authority. This quite naturally has led to a tendency to devote some of the time previously given to the work, to work of a more permanent nature.

It is to be hoped that when this work eventually passes to another authority these facts will be borne in mind when passing judgement on the work done by Local Authorities.

Cowkeepers registered	...	...	...	...	...	214
Cowsheds registered	...	...	...	...	...	218
Producers (including Graded Milks) registered	...	...	...	...	...	198
Retail Purveyors	...	...	...	...	...	15
Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	102
Contraventions	...	...	...	...	...	36
Informal Notices	...	...	...	...	...	4
Statutory Notices	...	...	...	...	...	Nil

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933.

Number of unexpired licences in force	14
---------------------------------------	-----	-----	-----	----

BAKEHOUSES

Number on register, December, 1947	...	...	...	8
Inspections	...	...	...	24
Informal Notices served	...	...	...	Nil
Statutory Notices served	...	...	...	Nil

Contraventions Remedied:—

Limewashing	...	...	...	...	8
Dirty Floors	...	...	...	...	Nil

CANAL BOATS

Number of boats inspected during 1947	...	...	...	16
Number of boats conforming to the Acts and Regulations	...	...	...	16
Number of boats infringing the Acts and Regulations	...	...	...	Nil
Total number for which the cabins were registered	...	...	...	16
Total number occupying the cabins	...	...	...	16

Details of Occupants:—

Male Adults	...	...	...	...	...	16
Female Adults	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Children of School Age	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Children under School Age	...	...	...	...	...	Nil

PUBLIC CLEANSING**House Refuse Collection and Disposal**

During 1947 the Council made a determined effort to improve the collection system. The Council's lorry, which was purchased in late 1946, was set the task of providing an adequate collection for the parishes of Wolverley, Churchill and Blakedown, Chad-desley Corbett, Stone and Broom. The men have worked well and the following details of loads collected shows that no time has been wasted.

Total number of loads removed	...	...	...	679
Estimated weight	...	...	...	1867 tons
Tipped at Wolverley	...	...	...	325 loads
Tipped at Churchill	...	...	...	182 „
Tipped at Bluntonington	...	...	...	38 „
Tipped at Lodgeford Hill	...	...	...	134 „
				<hr/> 679 loads <hr/>

The Contractor's lorry has dealt with the parishes of Rock, Upper Arley and Kidderminster Foreign.

The following are the details of loads removed:—

Total number of loads removed	...	...	...	364 loads
Estimated weight	...	...	...	1101 tons
Tipped at Chapel Lane, Rock	...	...	...	25 loads
Tipped at Wolverley	...	...	...	309 „
Tipped at Shatterford	...	...	...	3 „
Tipped at Churchill	...	...	...	7 „
Tipped at Arley	...	...	...	5 „
Tipped at Hoobrook	...	...	...	15 „
				<hr/> 364 loads <hr/>

On the administrative side the Council realised the difficulty I had in supervising this work and decided on the 1st April, 1947, to appoint Mr. C. G. Knott as my assistant. Great credit is due to him for the way in which he has carried out the scheme I recommended to the Council.

The Council still feel that a better service can be provided and it is intended to extend the scope of the system during 1948 by providing fortnightly collections wherever possible.

Night Soil Collection

A weekly collection of night soil is made from Chaddesley Corbett Village. The work is done by a local contractor who uses a motor lorry provided with suitable bins for the carriage of the night soil.

The Council's proposed Sewerage Scheme for the Village will render this service unnecessary, but as a temporary measure the system is as efficient as possible.

Number of pail closets emptied per week	81
---	-----	-----	----

CAMPING SITES.

Number of large sites which were used for camping purposes (approximately)	22
--	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

Number of sites in respect of which licences have been issued under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936	2
--	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

Estimated number of campers resident in the Area at any one time during the summer, 1947	3000
--	-----	-----	-----	------

Inspections made	51
------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

WATER SUPPLY

General

Number of samples submitted for analysis	...	...	18
Number of samples found to be unfit or unsuitable	...	...	7
Number of samples found to be fit	...	...	11

Council's Borehole, Cookley

Number of samples submitted for chemical and bacteriological examination	5
--	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

Number of samples found to be of good quality and fit for drinking	5
--	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

The water from the Borehole shows little variation in physical character and chemical composition.

For specimens of Analyst's Reports see Medical Officer of Health's Report.

COMPLAINTS.

Number of complaints received	397
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Summary of Complaints

Housing Defects	83
Defective and choked drainage	74
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	240

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA, 1947

Particulars of Visits and Inspections are as follows:—

Number of premises inspected	...	...	...	...	1576
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	24
Canal Boats	...	...	...	...	16
Caravans and Moveable Dwellings	...	...	...	...	51
Cowsheds	...	...	...	...	102
Dairies	...	...	...	...	107
Fried Fish Premises	...	...	...	...	3
Infectious Disease	...	...	...	...	41
Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	354
Premises where animals are kept	...	...	...	...	24
Schools	...	...	...	...	6
Water Courses	...	...	...	...	36
Water Supply	...	...	...	...	109
Workshops	...	...	...	...	3
Provision of Dustbins	...	...	...	...	76
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	614

SANITARY WORK**Interior of Houses**

Dirty houses improved and cleansed by tenant	...	...	6
Verminous houses dealt with	...	...	2

Yards and Outbuildings

Rainwater cisterns and pumps repaired or cleansed	...	7
Dirty yards and W.C.'s cleansed by tenants	...	21
Offensive accumulations removed from yards, etc.	...	97

Drainage

Yard gullies cleansed by tenants	...	...	23
Drains opened and cleansed from obstruction	...	...	76
Defective drains repaired	...	...	48
New drains provided	...	...	32
Glazed stoneware gullies provided	...	...	30
Inspection chambers provided to drains	...	...	9
Overflowing cesspools cleansed and repaired	...	...	116
Inspection chambers repaired and provided with new air-tight covers	...	...	4
Glazed sinks provided	...	...	3
Cesspools abolished	...	...	19

Water Closets

New Water Closets erected	...	...	3
Additional W.C.'s provided	...	...	2
Foul and obstructed W.C.'s cleansed	...	...	47
New W.C. cisterns provided, others repaired	...	...	4
Water Closets repaired	...	...	29
Water Closets provided with new basins and traps	...	...	3
Defective water supply to W.C.'s remedied (burst water pipes, defective ball valves, etc.)	...	...	192

Conversions.

Conversion of privies of W.C.'s	1
Conversion of Pail Closets to W.C.'s	5

Urinals

Urinals cleansed and repaired	9
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Privies and Pail Closets

New pans provided to pail closets	52
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Ashpits and Dustbins

Houses provided with new sanitary dustbins	76
Insanitary conditions of dustbins cleansed by tenants	6
Ashpits abolished	...	...	11

Various

Nuisances from improper keeping of animals	...	...	24
Accumulations of manure and refuse removed	...	...	31
Water courses cleansed	...	...	3
Miscellaneous nuisances dealt with	...	...	132
Nuisances on highways	...	...	3

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION ACT, 1919

Infestation Order, 1943.

Appended herewith is a summary of the work carried out during the year.

No. of Visits	Premises found to be infested			Premises found to be not Infested	Premises treated with Zinc Phosphide	Premises treated with Red Squill	Premises treated with Ratbane Grain
	Heavy	Medium	Light				
1188	4	8	66	1109	37	33	8

The efficient manner in which Mr. Bunn carries out this work can be seen by comparing the number of visits 1,188 with the number of premises found to be infested. All infestations have been dealt with before they reached dangerous proportions.

Sewers.

Acting on the instructions of the Ministry of Food, the sewers at Blakedown were treated during the year with satisfactory results.

Worcestershire War Agricultural Executive Committee.

The co-operation between this Committee and ourselves has been excellent and our thanks are due to all concerned.

Worcestershire Planning and Advisory Committee.

I am pleased to be able to report that this Committee has done very useful work during the year.

In conclusion, Gentlemen, may I express my thanks for the interest and support given me by the whole of the Council during the year.

I would also express my appreciation of the willing co-operation which I have received from the Clerk, Mr. J. H. Swann, the Surveyor, Mr. A. S. Northover, the Rating Officer, Miss I. M. Mountford, and the whole of the Council's staff.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

R. S. PORTER.

Sanitary Inspector.

